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PRESS RELEASE

**U.S. EMBASSY BRINGS AMERICAN FOLK MUSIC TO
BANGLADESH**

DHAKA, FEBRUARY 19 -- The American Center of the U.S. Embassy Dhaka is pleased to announce that the Appalachian acoustic string trio, “Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards,” will visit Dhaka from February 24 to March 1, 2014 as part of the American Music Abroad cultural exchange program. The group will lead lecture demonstrations and workshops, and participate in community outreach with young musicians and music students in Dhaka and Chittagong.

On February 26 at 6:00 pm, Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards will offer a free concert with Bangladesh’s Joler Gaan at the Bangladesh National Museum Auditorium. Free of charge tickets for this exciting performance will be available from Thursday, February 20, 2014 at the following locations: The American Center: J Block, Progoti Sharoni, Baridhara; EMK Center: Midas Center, 9th floor, House 5 Road 16 (Old) / 27 (New) Dhanmondi; Pizza Hut: Gulshan and Dhanmondi; North End Coffee Roasters: Kha-47-1 Bir Uttam Rafiqul Islam Ave; Alliance Française: Dhanmondi; Deshal: Shahbagh and Banani. All tickets are first come, first served.

Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards is an all-female string group brought together by the love of traditional American music. During their American Music Abroad exchange, they are visiting India, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Bangladesh. American Music Abroad, a program funded by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), is a people-to-people cultural exchange program designed to communicate America’s rich musical contributions and diverse culture to the global music scene.

Follow information about the band’s tour and more at the U.S. Embassy’s Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/bangladesh.usembassy>.

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